

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-45 and newly added claims 46-50 will remain in the application.

Telephone Interview

A telephone interview was conducted between Examiner Edouard, Applicants Daniel Heinze and Mark Morsch, and Applicants' Attorney, Kenyon Jenckes on January 21, 2004. The claims discussed were 1, 7, and 42-45. Examiner Edouard indicated that the addition in the independent claims of the types of limitations in claims 42-45 and a recitation of the specific structure of the knowledge vectors, if properly stated, would distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art currently under consideration. Examiner Edouard indicated that he would contact Mr. Jenckes prior to issuing a new Action if the amendments to the claims were not considered to be properly stated.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Friedman et al. in view of Caid et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,619,709, hereinafter "Caid").

Claims 42 and 45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Friedman et al. in view of Caid and further in view of Schuetze (U.S. Pat. No. 5,675,819).

Claims 43-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Friedman et al. in view of Caid and further in view of Zhilyaev (U.S. Pat. No. 6,137,911).

Pursuant to the telephone interview of January 21, 2004, Applicants have amended the claims to include additional limitations describing the features and structure of the knowledge vectors. Consider exemplary claim 1, which recites in relevant part:

"...identifying first type matches between parse items of the normalized file and a plurality of knowledge vectors, each of said knowledge vectors being manually-generated based on prior semantic knowledge and comprising a data structure including

one or more terms, each term having a weight based on the semantic category of the term, the weight being selected from a high weight, a low weight, and a middle weight,
a high weight indicating that a term must be present in a parse item to get a match,
a low weight indicating that a term, if present in a parse item, will improve a match, and
a middle weight,
wherein one or more of said knowledge vectors include a single term representing a numerical interval ...”

None of Friedman, Caid, Schuetze, and Zhilyaev, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggests a method of automatically interpreting a transcribed note using vector processing to generate associated codes using manually-generated knowledge vectors having one of three weights and including knowledge vector(s) including a single term representing a numerical interval. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the claims are allowable.

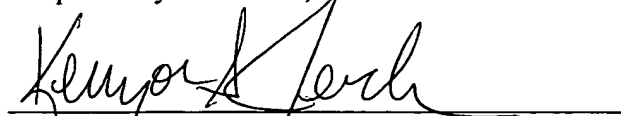
Support for amendments and new claims

No new matter has been added. Support for the amendments and new claims can be found at in the Specification at the following locations: page 24, lines 1-9; page 34, lines 7-15; page 35, lines 18-20; and page 35, line 28 to page 36, line 5.

Enclosed is our check in the amount of \$100 for Petition for Extension of Time for one month and for excess claim fees.

Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,


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